

Recent and Periodical Literature.

Darwin, Major Leonard, Sc.D. "*Population and Civilisation.*" (*The Economic Journal*, June, 1921, being a paper read before the Political Economy Club, March 2nd, 1921.)

OUR President has a thoughtful and valuable article under the above title in the June issue of "*The Economic Journal.*" The problem submitted is whether an increase of population at the present time would necessarily result in a lowering of the standard of our civilisation? He recognises the difficulty of defining the word civilisation, but submits that it depends upon three variables; (1) wealth; (2) stock; (3) tradition. In case objection is raised to (1) (wealth) as being too sordid a consideration, he points out that wealth is necessary for leisure, and that no civilisation is possible without leisure in which to cultivate and enjoy it. He concludes that civilisation depends largely upon wealth. Although he has in mind average wealth per head of population, he recognises that the question of distribution of wealth is also very important, as this reacts upon contentment and contentment again reacts upon civilisation. He believes that an increase in numbers of our population would have a harmful effect upon distribution, as an increase in numbers, whilst leading to an increase in labour, would produce no immediate increase in capital, and therefore would tend to diminish the proportion of the total wealth which goes to labour. At the same time he recognises that this effect would, in the main, be transient. Our chief concern, however, is with the direct effects of wealth on civilisation. Malthus, though his main thesis was quite correct, was probably in error in saying that the happiness of countries depended "on the proportion which the population and the food bear to each other." He would have been more correct if he had substituted for the word "food" the expression "the average production per head of all useful goods." Major Darwin thinks that the true connection between wealth and civilisation depends on whether an increase in numbers would or would not increase the national dividend? This really raises the question of whether production is or is not now on the whole obeying the law of diminishing returns? Major Darwin's own opinion is that it is, and if this is correct it would follow that any increase in numbers would ultimately result in a relative reduction in wealth per head, and a consequential lowering in our standard of civilisation, compared with what it would have been if the population had remained stationary.

The second variable on which civilisation depends is stock or racial qualities. With man, as with the lower animals, what is needed is that the more highly endowed groups should be the most fertile. Unfortunately, to-day it is the poorest classes who are multiplying more rapidly, and the poorest classes (owing to the fact that the more richly gifted individuals are continually raising themselves out of the poorest class into a higher social stratum) are also the most poorly endowed with natural qualities. Owing to this, any increase of numbers to-day, and for so long as this propensity continues, must react injuriously upon our civilisation. So important is this conclusion that Major Darwin suggests that great efforts should be made (e.g. by the application of the Binet-Simon system) to verify or refute it.

Lastly, we have to consider the effect of (3), tradition, using this term in an extended sense to include all we receive from previous generations through the agency of our minds. Major Darwin points out that there are laws of environmental inheritance, just as of natural inheritance, the two methods of inheritance being closely similar in their results. The excessive output of children is not only from homes poor in natural qualities, but from homes poor also in "tradition," and the evil habits acquired in sordid surroundings are being continually passed on to posterity by home contagion or environmental inheritance.

Our final conclusion, therefore, is that whether we look at the question from the point of view of wealth, stock, or tradition any increase in the population, *such as is now taking place*, will be accompanied by a lowering of the standard of our civilisation, or at least by a check to any advance which would otherwise be in progress.

As for the remedy, Major Darwin at once dismisses emigration as being useless. Our colonies are likely to make their immigration laws more severe, and even at

present it is only our better stocks which emigrate. Birth Control (the voluntary limitation of fertility) is at present chiefly practised by the more prudent classes, being chiefly instigated by forethought for the welfare of children. It is, therefore, from the eugenicists' point of view, at present operating injuriously. Would a more extended use of birth control merely intensify this bad result? or would it be possible by inducing the less prudent classes to follow the example of their more far-seeing neighbours to reverse this process and make birth control beneficial? This is a difficult question, but Major Darwin frankly admits his own belief that if the poorest classes could be induced to limit their families in proportion to their poverty it would 'produce results on the health, wealth and contentment of the people of to-day,' as well as on the standard of future generations, of a highly beneficial kind.' Simultaneously, however, there should be a strict condemnation of excessive birth control amongst our best stocks. 'If the Government were to adopt adequate measures affecting fertility in good homes and in bad, the doors of hope would be thrown wide open, disclosing a prospect before us of indefinite advancement in human welfare.'

C.K.M.

Ellis, Mrs. Havelock. *The New Horizon in Love and Life.* London: A. & C. Black. 1921. Pp. 200. 10s. 6d. net.

THIS collection of essays, some of which were written as early as 1895, contain many ideas on marriage and sex which are now commonly accepted—such as the marriage which permits both husband and wife to pursue different occupations and to go out separately in society on occasions. The chapter on the 'Noviciate' for marriage is however not sufficiently worked out. It is left a little obscure whether the couple are merely to live together as friends or whether they are to enjoy all the privileges of married life. If the latter is intended, the obvious difficulties would seem to outweigh the advantages. Apart from this, the plea for a frank discussion of matters relating to sex, for a higher standard in marital love, for a greater sympathy with abnormal cases with a view to more efficient treatment, is in agreement with modern eugenic teaching.

E.E.

Ellis, Grace G. Central High School, Grand Rapids, Michigan. I. *The Origin of Life. A Girl's Physiology.* 1919. Pp. 52.

Upton, Samuel R. and Ellis, Grace, F. Central High School, Grand Rapids, Michigan. *The Boy and His Body. A Boy's Physiology.* 1920. Pp. 52.

THESE two pamphlets are primarily intended to help the boy and girl students of the Central High School, Michigan. They are brief readable expositions of Sexual Physiology with some short chapters on Heredity, Eugenics, and Social Standards. It would be well if the senior pupils in our Schools could read these booklets, they present much information and wisdom in few but clear words.

Before entering on a short consideration of their pages it is necessary to say that the final proofs of both pamphlets needed more careful reading. The otherwise excellent production is marred by small inaccuracies in phraseology and by many inaccuracies in spelling.

Both booklets are clearly and adequately illustrated.

Miss Grace F. Ellis deals first with cell growth and division, beginning with unicellular organisms. She leads on to the fertilization and early life of flowering plants, fish, frogs, and the mammalia. Then follows a brief sketch of the anatomy of woman's internal organs of reproduction.

In Chapter III, there is an account of the phenomena of puberty, of the age at which it develops in American girls, and the changes which then occur in the generative organs.

The fourth chapter deals with menstruation. There is a sketch of its physiology and of its hygiene, and under the latter heading there is some very sensible advice to young girls.

Chapter V, on "The Beginnings of Life," ought to be read with the deepest interest—the plates illustrating fertilization and the early changes in a fecundated germ cell are especially clear and helpful. There are here, as elsewhere in the pamphlet, minor blemishes—for instance where the chorionic villi are described as hairs. Naturally a villus has a totally different origin and structure from a hair. And again there is an inaccuracy when the very early ovum covered with villi is

termed "a ciliated mass." These small defects will probably disappear in the second edition to which we look forward.

Once more the description of the fully developed placenta as "a thick round mass about the size of a saucer" leads to an enquiry as to the size of the cups which could need a saucer 8 to 10 inches in diameter.

"Social Standards" forms the subject of Chapter VI, and is both sympathetic and wise. The author reminds young girls of their great responsibility for the manners and morals of their boy associates—also of the reproach that any dereliction of theirs is sure to bring on their mothers.

Girls are reminded of the dignity and value of womanhood, wifehood, and motherhood, and that altruism has its root in motherliness.

The individual sorrow and the national loss caused by illegal unions and by illegitimacy is well and delicately discussed, and a few lines on the punishment of immorality in the contraction of venereal disease closes the chapter.

The concluding chapters on Mendelism, Heredity, and Eugenics can be best considered together with the corresponding pages in the pamphlet for boys.

The Boy and His Body is a pamphlet addressed to boys by Miss Ellis and Mr. Upton jointly. The information given in Chapters I and II, is much the same as that in the companion volume but is briefer and better systematized. Each sub-section has its cross heading which greatly assists the reader's eye and understanding and is particularly valuable in papers and booklets which have no index.

Chapter III on the male reproductive organs is short but well written and has one sufficient illustration.

Puberty is considered in Chapter IV, its outward signs and inward changes are described, but here, as in the companion volume, there does not seem to be sufficient stress on the all important function of ovaries and testes which by means of their "internal secretion" secure to each normal individual his or her essential value and charm. It is true that the authors mention "Hormones" and attribute to them an enormous influence over physical development, the absence of which is evident in spayed and castrated individual, but there seems to us to be a lost opportunity for teaching boys and girls the wonderful power of their essential organs and of their responsibility for the healthiness and correct function of ovaries and testes.

There is a good, wise, sub-section on the Hygiene of the boy's reproductive organs which ought to be impressed on all growing lads.

The chapter on "Chromatin," like that in "The Origin of Life," is very valuable and interesting, and on p. 31 we find the following short paragraph which explains the whole situation in a few words:

"From the point of view of the family heredity, the individual body is the passive storehouse of all that his ancestors have handed on. The parent is the 'trustee of the germ cell,' not at all the producer of it. He decides its possibilities and restrictions when he unites it with some other line."

On this follows the familiar teaching derived from Gregor Mendel and diagrams to illustrate his doctrine. There is much to be learnt from the case of mating black and white Rose comb fowls, the trotting horse of America, and the development of various useful characteristics in cows, sheep, and other animals.

The human race also shows an obedience to the laws enunciated by Mendel although free will in the mating of the human being makes it difficult to ensure the reproduction of desirable and the extinction of undesirable characteristics.

In this part of the pamphlet there is a most interesting account of how Mendelism was illustrated in the heredity of the deformity of the fingers in a certain family, by transmission of moral and intellectual defects, and by the more desirable transmission of mental and moral greatness in the Jonathan Edwards family and others.

The authors do well to remind us that "any individual is the product of three factors: training, heredity, and environment, and so closely welded are these three in his character that we cannot analyse the part played by each." It is well also that we should remember that we are not only the representatives of our families but that we are also the clay moulded by the spirit of the age, the character of our nation, and the force of our environment.

Chapter VIII on Social Standards opens with a valuable statement showing that sexual intercourse is *not* a physical necessity for men and essential to their health—that sexual intercourse is not necessary to preserve virility that the sex instinct in man is *not* so imperious that it does not admit of control, and finally, that man has no natural and unassailable right to indulge his sexual impulse. Next follow a few words on venereal disease.

The pamphlet closes with wise and sympathetic advice to boys and young men to keep themselves pure, and so to maintain health for themselves, happiness for their families, dignity and stability for the nation.

MARY SCHARLIEB.

Howe, Lucien. *A Bibliography of Hereditary eye defects*. Eugenics Record Office, Bulletin No. 21. May, 1921. Pp. 45.

The scope of the bibliography may be gathered from the following extract from the introduction.

"Attention was first called to the subject because of its relation to the ocular muscles. It was known long ago that heterotropia, heterophoria and even anomalies of refraction were dependent, in some obscure manner, upon what we call heredity. In order to estimate the values of this unknown factor, a search was made for articles on the relation between muscular anomalies and heredity. The number found was not large, but their character gave promise of valuable data.

Although several bibliographies of hereditary eye defects had already been prepared, well marked examples of true heredity were included with defects which were simply congenital.

Therefore the first thing was to separate if possible these two groups. To do that completely was evidently impossible, not only because congenital defects frequently prove to be hereditary, but especially because writers are often careless with terms they employ. But by this separation nearly a third of the references taken from earlier bibliographies were weeded out.

The second step was to separate these references into groups, as had not been done previously. Finally, a section was added giving a list of most of the more recent articles on sterilization, because as a remedial measure for hereditary blindness it was attracting some attention. Thus a search for articles concerning the relation of heredity to anomalies of the ocular muscles produced, as a by-product, this bibliography of the relation of heredity to many other forms of eye defects.

But a second and more important by-product developed which was an appreciation of the important relation of heredity to certain forms of blindness, and therefore the desirability of some effort for its prevention. No one can read these sad accounts of the heredity of glaucoma, of cataract, of optic atrophy, alone or with insanity and a long list of minor defects, without realizing how many lives have been made miserable because of ignorance or heedlessness. Careful estimates indicate that we have in the United States at least five thousand of these unfortunates, and that they cost us, directly and indirectly, over two million dollars annually."

Jennings, H. S. *Life and Death: Heredity and Evolution in Unicellular Organisms*. 1920. London: Stanley Phillips. 15s.

This book contains a most thoughtful summary of the work which has recently been carried out on pure line inheritance, selection, etc., among the protozoa. As is well known, most of the work has been done by Professor Jennings, and his assistants. Professor Jennings also discusses in a most illuminating way the bearing of these observations upon problems of evolution and heredity. It is open to question as to how far conclusions drawn from observations made upon the protozoa are relevant when we come to discuss the metazoa, but there can be no doubt that to some very considerable extent light is thrown by this work upon the larger problems involved. It may be said briefly that Professor Jennings finds that there is no permanent result of selection in a pure line apart from the occurrence of mutations. Mutations, it may be observed, have not been infrequently noted among the various protozoa under observation. As regards the result of the discussion, Professor Jennings holds that the function of sexual reproduction is solely to bring about a mixture of factors and is in no way connected with the rejuvenation of the organism.

A.M. C-S.

Pell, Charles, Edward. *The Law of Births and Deaths: being a study of the variation in the degree of animal fertility under the influence of the Environment*. T. Fisher Unwin, Ltd. 1921. Price 12s. 6d. Pp. 192.

In this very interesting and pertinent discussion, the author deduces the conclusion that under a condition of evolution in man and in wild species the birthrate and

deathrate must rise or fall together. This thesis is considered particularly in its relation to human society, but also finds numerous illustrations from the animal and plant kingdoms. It is held to be a necessary condition of progressive evolution that the reproductive capacity of the species should diminish as the survival-capacity of the organism increases. In "nervous energy" the author sees a controlling factor, which varies inversely as the degree of animal fertility in response to the direct action of the environment. In other words, an accumulation of nervous energy tends towards sterility, and its reduction towards fertility. Such a development of nervous energy takes place in man or animals when physical exercise is moderate, the diet rich, especially in proteids, the climate "bright and bracing," and the conditions making for mental stimulation. By such means the relative sterility of caged animals and of such domesticated animals as the elephant is accounted for.

Evidence is cited to show that intellectual activity is inimical to fertility, and that its absence is accompanied by high fertility, as in primitive races and such groups as the French peasantry of Quebec. According to this hypothesis the steatopygous milk-drinking tribes of Central Africa should be highly sterile and the aborigines of North America living under rigorous conditions should have been exceptionally fertile. But this does not appear to have been the case.

The author believes that the birthrate in man is therefore controlled by a natural law, and that the effect of the use of contraceptives on the birthrate is negligible. His arguments on this head are by no means convincing, but this does not invalidate his main contention that the birthrate and deathrate of a species are under one and the same law of control. His view does, however, invalidate the law of Malthus that a fall in the death-rate resulting from improved conditions will lead to an increase in numbers in geometrical progression. It also attempts to account for increases as well as decreases in the birthrate of a race.

The views of Herbert Spencer with regard to the relation between individuation and reproduction are also controverted; and the author refers to the early writings of Doubleday, who in 1837 claimed that the rise in the birthrate which was then taking place was closely connected with a fall in the standard of living.

There appears to be much biological truth in the author's contention that a high development of "nervous energy" makes for sterility, and he has made out a very plausible explanation of the fact that birthrates and deathrates usually go up or down together. The book is worth reading for its biological as well as its eugenic interest.

R.R.G.

Saleeby, C. W., M.D. *The Eugenic Prospect: National and Racial*. T. Fisher Unwin, Ltd., 1921. 12s. 6d. Pp. 239.

IN "The Eugenic Prospect; national and racial," Dr. Saleeby has continued the discussion of hygienic matters, which he began in "The Whole Armour of Man" reviewed in these pages in January, 1920. In the introduction he makes clear his attitude to the work of the Eugenics Education Society in the passage:—

"Some, at least, of the acquired effects of nutritive and toxic factors may be transmitted: a fact which we know because such transmission has been experimentally produced and observed. With the demonstration of this truth the whole of class- and caste-eugenics, as advocated in Great Britain, most deplorably by the Eugenics Education Society, collapses; its fundamental assumptions being sand."

The passage may be taken as an example of the sweeping statements made by Dr. Saleeby in the best platform style.

The book is a réchauffé of his lectures delivered in many cases in the United States with a nauseous flattery of his audience, which must have stimulated their contempt.

The book contains a discussion of a number of current difficulties. Dr. Saleeby has advocated some method of dealing with most of them. If his way has been adopted then they are likely to be remedied by it, if not then there is indeed a bad look out for the country. Dr. Saleeby is a distinguished alumnus of Edinburgh University but his studies do not seem to have included the works of Robert Burns.

C.E.A.B.

Trench, Violet. "*Queens*"—*A Book for Girls about Themselves*. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company. 1920. Pp. 64.

MISS TRENCH reminds her readers of Lord Tennyson's "Three Great Needfuls," self-knowledge, self-reverence, and self-control which "alone lead strife to sovereign power," and also that Ruskin said when addressing young girls: "The highest dignity is open to you, if you will also accept the highest duty."

On the first page is the picture of a queen seated on a throne. Miss Trench wishes the girl reader to imagine her body the queen's palace, her mind as the queen's garden. Her teeth the door-steps of the palace, to be cleaned and cared for daily in order to enable them to do their work of preparing food before it goes downstairs to the palace kitchen or digestive organs. So the metaphor continues with the whole body, its organs, and their functions. The mind too—the queen's garden—must be cultivated and filled with the useful and the beautiful, lest the weeds grow.

As the future is unknown she urges that it should not be counted as lost, when time is expended in the pursuit of knowledge of such things as cooking, cleaning, washing, sewing, keeping accounts, laying out money, and taking care of little children.

The whole book is full of great truths very simply told, meant to be put into the hands of quite young girls, and may be of help to more mothers and guardians who hesitate to speak openly, hesitate perhaps too long, until these truths are made known in a very much less beautiful way.

Let it be remembered that to use books for the formation of character is not to be compared with intimate example and free discussion when the opportunity comes from the child.

M.L.H.

Whitney, Jessamine, S. U.S. Department of Labor, U.S.A. *Infant Mortality in New Bedford*, Mass: Washington; Government Printing Office, 1920. Pp. 103.

Haley, Theresa, S. U.S. Department of Labor, U.S.A. *Infant Mortality in Akron, Ohio*. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1920. Pp. 120.

THESE two reports which epitomise the result of an extensive investigation into the infantile mortality of two working-class American cities afford instructive reading for the student of social conditions. In both the conclusions arrived at are identical, i.e. that the infant mortality varies directly with the social environment and with the enlightenment of the parent. Also that the birth rate varies directly with the infant mortality. In all enquiries into infant mortality the same facts obtain and it leads one to ask the question whether limitation of births alone would not inevitably reduce the infant mortality rate without the enormous expenditure of infant welfare centres, inspection of milk and maternity nurses.

Infant mortality, beyond a comparatively low figure which is unavoidable, and due to development and ante-natal defects, comes to be more and more a measure of the ignorance of the mother or of the poverty of her surroundings. The measures adopted in these two cities to lessen—and they have been increasingly successful—the mortality are in reality directed solely towards the enlightenment of the child-bearing mother. As sanitation and housing improve so does the infant mortality fall, and as the wage-earning capacity of the family increases so do the birth-rate and mortality rate fall. Thus in Bedford the mortality rate of 201.9 per thousand births obtains in families where the parent earned less than 450 dollars a year; the lowest mortality rate was 59.9 for fathers whose earnings were 250 dollars a year. The cause of this difference largely lies in the fact that in the first group practically all the mothers worked during the ante-natal and post-natal periods, which meant that the infant is wholly or partially artificially fed. The death rate for infants artificially fed is 4.5 times greater than for breast-fed infants.

In the report of the conditions obtaining at Akron, the problem is a different one. Akron has an infant mortality of 85.2 per 1,000, which is low when compared with that of New Bedford (143.) The wages are higher and the number of working mothers lower. The difference between the mortality rate of artificial fed and breast fed infants is the same as in New Bedford, that is, four times greater in the former.

The greatest number of deaths in the first year of life are due to gastric and intestinal disorders, which are more largely preventible than respiratory diseases, inasmuch as they arise from conditions other than bad housing and sanitation. The problem here is rather the provision of welfare centres and instruction generally than of betterment of social conditions.

The Department of Labor Children's Bureau, of which Miss Lothrop is head, is to be congratulated on the completeness of the enquiries and the exhaustive methods employed in the investigations. F.C.L.

Birth Control Review. June, 1921.

An article in this number comments on the great improvement that has accrued to the race in Holland since the universal practice of birth control, adopted 85 years ago. When the Dutch army was mobilized the highest army standards showed that the men of the proper age for the service were 95 per cent. efficient, according to the highest army standard, whereas in the United States, only 65 per cent. of the men were efficient, and that with a lowered military standard.

The longevity of the Dutchman has also increased from 46—51 years. These figures are equalled only by those from the Scandinavian countries, where Birth Control was advocated and practised even before it reached the Netherlands. In spite of the low birth rate the population of Holland is increasing E.E.

The Chicago Medical Recorder, March, 1921.

BIRTH RATES AND WORLD WARS, by Charles A. L. Reed, M.D. This address, delivered by the Emeritus Professor of Cincinnati University, is a justification of contraceptive methods when applied to limitation of families. The facts and figures he brings forward in regard to the birth-rates of various nations are indisputable, but the contention that the population (compare France and the United States of America) of a country with a lower birth rate is as good or even better than that with a higher one, is new. The argument that the French army of 1914, the flower of a nation amongst whom birth control had obtained for many years, was better than that of 1870 owing largely to the practice of birth control, is a striking one. America, on the author's shewing, has a largely birth-controlled populace except amongst the very lowest form of immigrants and the black races, and to this fact he credits the mental stability of the population. He goes further, for he states that: the inability of the black races to restrain and control the primitive instincts marks them for ever to be a race of primitives, who will always take a low place in the mental scale. Whilst deprecating strongly any instruction by the Medical Man in abortion methods, the author lays it down as the duty of the Medical Man to give instruction in contraceptive methods in cases where social and economic facts justify its use. He further adds that it is equally the duty of the Medical Man to advise child-bearing in certain cases. The whole trend of the paper is in striking unanimity with modern Eugenic ideals. F.C.L.

The Malthusian, May 15th, 1920.

JAPAN AND BIRTH CONTROL. Mrs. Margaret Sanger reports that the Japanese Government itself is taking steps to institute a national birth control policy. Dr. Kato, head of the Department of Medical Affairs under the Japanese Government, told her that his Government is convinced that it must establish birth control as a nation-wide policy at once or fight a war of aggression with the next generation. E.E.

Man, July, 1921.

THE EVOLUTION OF CLIMATE IN NORTH-WEST EUROPE, by C. E. P. Brooks, M.Sc. (Abstract of a Paper read at the Royal Meteorological Society, 20th April, 1921.)

Since the last great glaciation (the Würmian) seven climatic periods are distinguished, which are summarised in the following table:—

PHASE.	CLIMATE.	DATE.
1. The Last Great Glaciation	Arctic climate	80,000—18,000 B.C.
2. The Retreat of the Glaciers	Severe Continental climate	18,000—6,000 B.C.
3. The Continental Phase ..	Continental climate	6,000—4,000 B.C.
4. The Maritime Phase ..	Warm and Moist	4,000—3,000 B.C.
5. The later Forest Phase ..	Warm and dry	3,000—1,800 B.C.
6. The Peat-bog Phase ..	Cooler and moister	1,800 B.C.—800 A.D.
7. The Recent Phase ..	Becoming drier	800 A.D. onwards.

It will be noticed that the latter five phases are of relatively short duration, and apparently represent relatively slight changes in climate. The chronology is based on the work of Baron de Geer in Sweden, and agrees with that of Penck and Bruckner for the Alps. The evidence as to climate is chiefly botanical. R.A.F.

The Social Hygiene Bulletin. May, 1921.

NEW YORK THE CLEANEST CITY. The Committee of Fourteen in New York City in its report for 1920 claims that New York has less open vice than any of the world's largest cities. Organized in 1905 to secure the suppression of disorderly hotels the Committee extended its work in 1912 to include all forms of commercialized vice. The total number of prostitution cases in the Women's Court has varied greatly in different years, the general tendency being downward, there being 5365 cases in 1911 as against 1808 in 1920.

E.E.

Social Hygiene Bulletin. June, 1921.

A report on the Questionnaires issued by the Bureau of Social Hygiene (New York City), on the sex life of normal married women is of interest. The questionnaire with explanatory letter was issued to 10,000 women in all parts of the United States. Up to now, 1000 filled in questionnaires have been returned.

Only 8.2 per cent. had had less than high school education, 66.9 per cent. were college or university graduates. More than 87% said that their marriages were "happy," so that the prediction that it would be the unhappy wives who answered was not fulfilled. When fully digested and tabulated this material on sex-experience and education should be of utility.

E.E.

Social Welfare. May, 1921. (Toronto.)

THIS number contains a summary of the views of the Five Christian Churches, Church of England, Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and Roman Catholic on Divorce. It also gives an excellent survey of all the Social Legislation enacted in Canada in 1920.

E.E.

Time and Tide. July 8th to August 19th, 1921.

THE PROBLEM OF THE SEXES IN 1921, by Maude Royden. In these seven articles, which have appeared weekly in *Time and Tide*, Miss Maude Royden has handled a very difficult and delicate subject in an able manner. She has presented the case fairly from different standpoints, giving each advocate the benefit of assuming that they genuinely uphold their views in the belief that they are the soundest and best for the progress of the race. It is a relief to read the writings of one who sees light and hope in the present unsettled condition of society, and she shows how much which appears bad is the result of this generation's rejection of the false position in which our ancestors placed the female sex. The readjusting of relationships and the clearing away of erroneous conceptions will cause a good deal of trouble and some will get defiled who would otherwise have remained untouched by virtue of their seclusion. The fallacy of the necessity of prostitution as a safeguard of our homes is dealt with and it is shown to be a step in the right direction that the youth of to-day is beginning to reject their own exemption from temptation at the cost of the damnation of others. The demand of a certain section of the community for what they term the "Right to Motherhood" and of others for experimental marriages is well replied to and shown to be claimed by other motives than that of the true instinct of motherhood which always sacrifices itself on behalf of the child.

Miss Royden does not touch directly on Eugenics, and we should have been glad had she in these articles brought forward the part heredity plays in this world, and the fact that as we cannot gather grapes of thistles the laws relating to heredity must be taken into account when dealing with all matters of environment, else much disappointment will be suffered by reformers. All eugenicists hold that right thoughts on sex, marriage and family life are essential and tend to the reproduction of the most desirable types, and we welcome these articles and hope they will reach a wide public.

G.M.C.

An Appeal.

The following letter has been received in response to the appeal for funds which was made in the last two issues of the Review:—

To the Editor of THE EUGENICS REVIEW.

Sir,—

I have read the appeal printed in your issue of April, which I have just received, and have pleasure in sending you herewith a draft for ten guineas as a contribution to the Eugenics Education Society, under the conditions of Mr. R. A. Fisher's offer. I beg you will do me the kindness of handing the draft to the Society's treasurer. I may mention that although a member of the society for some years, I did not receive the letter sent out by the President; probably the post is to blame.

I further wish to make an offer of a donation of twenty guineas under similar conditions to those established by Mr. Fisher: that is provided *twelve* other members each subscribe a like sum during the year, for I believe no form of Charity to be so far reaching in its effects as money spent upon the spread of the knowledge of eugenics, or, still better, upon practical schemes for race improvement.

I must, however, make one other condition. I trust that the present policy of the Council is not to propagate indiscriminate *birth control*. If so, I do not wish to be a subscriber at all, and indeed I feel so strongly on this subject that I beg you will have the courtesy to publish this letter, or the essential parts of what follows. As to the policy of future Councils, I feel confident that all danger of such propaganda being made by sincere eugenicists will soon have passed by for ever.

BIRTH CONTROL.

I live in a country where, even in the regions through which the few railways run, one may travel for scores of miles along the track and see nothing but forest land, without a single cottage or a single field to show that there are inhabitants. Yet it is a wonderful country, a glorious country, with over three million square miles of arable land, of which only a tiny fraction is actually under cultivation. There is plenty of sun, plenty of rain, untold fertility, and only one thing missing . . . population. The climate in some parts is doubtless trying, but everywhere tolerable and in most of the southern regions it is ideal.

Are we to distress ourselves because in 300 years time, without birth control, the descendants of the present inhabitants of Britain might reach the numbers of the Chinese Empire? In the first place can we not trust that, ere that time, these vast fertile regions will really have been *discovered* (which apparently is not yet the case), to say nothing of the immense uninhabited regions of the British Empire itself? And, in the second place, have we not sufficient reason to believe that better methods of birth-control,—no longer haphazard but discriminating and exact,—such as will prevent the procreation of the unfit alone, will ere then have been adopted by all intelligent peoples? Why then are we to restrict the number of Britons that are to people the earth in the years to come? Will it be better that the world shall be inhabited by Germans, or Negroes, or Chinese? There is very great probability that South America, at any rate, will be peopled by one or more of these latter races, as the degenerate stocks that now "occupy"—or fail to occupy—some regions gradually disappear. We may be sure that, since the blood of the Vikings flows in the veins of every Englishman . . . yes, even in those of the inhabitants of London's slums, excepting of course the foreign element, . . . given a favourable environment, during three or four generations, a sturdy race will spring, even from the poorest classes in our large towns, if we eliminate a very small percentage of irretrievably degraded stock. For, though environment may or may not have effect on the inborn qualities of a race, yet nobody doubts that dormant qualities, that have once existed, may be eventually revived by suitable environment. In fact, a single generation is often sufficient to bring this about. Our country people are and always have been sturdy and honest; our town people

are either equally so or at least retain these same qualities in a dormant state. Are they not fit to people the earth in the time to come? Even allowing for degenerates, is not the British germ-plasm as good as any?

Let us by all means check the procreation of criminals, lunatics and other degenerates of the worst sort, but is it not folly or worse to preach birth control indiscriminately to all classes, in those very islands where the germ-plasm exists that cannot be excelled? Country children, even families of ten, twelve or more, are generally bonny, in our Mother-land, as in our Anglo-Saxon colonies. Air and exercise cost nothing and are the main requisites for successfully rearing children. There is no lack of air or of space in God's world.

Instead of preaching birth control, let us then "reconstruct our smoke-befouled cities," and "smoke" may be taken as standing for all forms of dirt or squalor; let us legislate without fear to prevent the eminently unfit from spreading disease and crime and idiocy through future generations. It is often the very people who indiscriminately preach birth control that also appear to think the individual has some natural and inalienable right to spread suffering through future generations, if he insists upon doing so. He must be reasoned with and persuaded, not prevented. These people ignore the fact that the degenerate are just the last of all individuals likely to be moved by argument or by moral appeal.

"A.M.C.S.," who, in the same issue, reviewed "Woman and the New Race," asks: "Abortion and infanticide being out of the question, the only alternatives to birth control appear to be postponement of marriage or restriction of intercourse between married persons. Are these methods more or less desirable than birth control?" He challenges those who oppose birth control to solve the problem of over-population among the lowest class.

As will be gathered from the foregoing, it appears to me that the answer is to be found in the three things I have advocated, namely: Discriminating birth control (through legislation), the "reconstruction of our smoke-befouled cities," and emigration. Control must begin at the bottom of the social scale, with the casual, the shiftless, the feeble-minded, the criminal and the diseased. This can only be done by vigorous and unflinching legislation. If public opinion is set against any such legislation, our propaganda must aim at changing public opinion in this respect. The fallacious belief in the sacred right of the individual to inflict blindness, idiocy and criminality on unborn generations must be fought and overcome. The legislation introduced, when the state of public opinion shall have made it possible, will have to be progressively severe, beginning with the segregation of confirmed criminals, and persons infected with venereal diseases, the former permanently, the latter till absolutely cured. The feeble-minded also will of course be segregated.

When severity is the only solution to a problem, unknown harm may be done by trying to find another solution, for NATURE HERSELF IS SEVERE, and punishes the innocent with a severity we seem afraid of applying to the guilty.

Yours truly,

CHARLES W. ARMSTRONG.

Rio de Janeiro, 1st May, 1921.

Office News.

The office was re-opened on September 1st, and it is hoped that no one has been inconvenienced by this break. Owing to the holidays there is little to report, and we are having to go to press early on account of the dispute in the printing trade.

INTERNATIONAL EUGENICS CONGRESS.

Major Darwin sailed for New York on September 10th in order to represent the Society at the Congress. In addition to giving the opening address with his paper entitled 'The Aims and Methods of Eugenical Societies,' he has consented to contribute a second one, the title for which is 'The Field for Eugenic Reform.' According to the provisional programme received from New York, the Congress is divided into the following sections:—

“Section 1. Dr. Helen Dean King, Secretary.

I. In the first section of the Congress will be presented, on the one hand, the results of research in the domain of pure genetics in animals and plants, on the other, studies in human heredity. The application to man of the laws of heredity and the physiology of reproduction as worked out on some of the lower animals will be presented.

Leading Address: Dr. Lucien Cuenot, Nancy, France.

Section II. Dr. Howard J. Bunker, Secretary.

II. The second section will consider factors which influence the human family and their control; the relation of fecundity of different strains and families and the question of social and legal control of such fecundity; also the differential mortality of the eugenically superior and inferior stocks and the influence upon such mortality of special actors, such as war and epidemics and endemic diseases. First in importance among the agencies for the improvement of the race is the marriage relation, with its antecedent mate selection. Such selection should be influenced by natural sentiment and by a knowledge of the significant family traits of the proposed consorts and of the method of inheritance of these traits. In this connection will be brought forward facts of improved and unimproved families and of the prestance, generation after generation, of the best as well as the worst characteristics.

Leading Address: Dr. Herman Lundborg, Uppsala, Sweden.

Section III. Dr. Clark Wissler, Secretary.

III. The third section will concern itself with the topic of human racial differences, with the sharp distinction between racial characteristics and the unnatural associations often created by political and national boundaries. In this connection will be considered the facts of the migration of races, the influence of racial characteristics on human history, the teachings of the past with bearings on the policies of the future. Certain prejudices directed toward existing races will be removed when allowance is made for the influence of their social and educational environment, and their fundamentally sound and strong racial characteristics are brought to light. On the other hand, limits to development of certain races and the inalterability through education and environment of the fundamental characteristics of certain stocks will be considered. Finally the advantages and disadvantages of the mingling of races, of unions which have proved fateful to social progress, should be discussed. In this section will be presented the results of research upon racial mixture in relation to human history. Also the topics of racial differences in diseases and psychology will be taken up. The history of race migrations and their influence on the fate of nations, especially modern immigration, should be set forth.

Leading Address: Dr. M. V. de Lapouge, Poitiers, France.

Section IV. Dr. Frederick L. Hoffman, Secretary.

IV. The fourth section will discuss eugenics in relation to the state, to society and to education. It will include studies on certain practical applications of eugenic research and on the value of such findings to morals, to education, to history and to the various social problems and movements of the day. In this section will be considered the bearing of genetical discoveries upon the question of human differences and upon the desirability of adjusting the educational programme of such differences. Here will be considered the importance of family history studies for the better understanding and treatment of various types of hospital cases and those requiring custodial care. The bearings of genetics on sociology, economics and the fate of nations may be considered in this section.

Leading Address: Major Leonard Darwin, London, Eng."

LECTURES.

At the moment of going to press we regret that we have no meetings in the near future to announce, but members will receive due notice of lectures to be held during the autumn and winter at a later date.

On October 13th, 1921, Mr. W. Hope-Jones will address the Great Western Railway Lecture and Debating Society at Paddington on "Can man exercise a Control over the evolution of his own race?." He will also speak on the same subject on December 13th, to the members of the Windsor, Slough and Eton Branch of the Workers' Educational Association.

At some time in October Mr. S. Stock is giving a lecture on Eugenics to those that have ears to hear at Jersey, Channel Islands.

On January 26th, 1922, at 7 p.m. Mr. W. Hope-Jones is giving a general address on "Eugenics" at the City Temple Literary Society, Holborn Viaduct, E.C.1. There will be a limited number of seats placed at our disposal on this occasion, which we will be glad to allot to members on application.

On March 21st, 1922, Mr. R. Dixon Kingham is again speaking to the Men's Guild of the Lewisham Congregational Church on "Eugenics and Natural Selection."

THE ENGLISH SPEAKING CONFERENCE ON INFANT WELFARE.

Our representative reports as follows:—"At the English Speaking Conference on Infant Welfare held at the Central Hall, Westminster, in July last, important papers were read on Inheritance and Environment as factors in Racial Health. The Chairmen were the Hon. Sir Arthur Stanley and Dr. A. F. Still. A paper was read on "Inheritance and Environment as Factors in Racial Health," by Dr. Helen MacMurchy, Chief of the Child Welfare Division of the Department of Health of Canada. She summed up as the greatest factors in the environment of the child, the character and personality of the parents because they have the power to transform the rest of the child's environment so that racial health may be secured."

Publications Received.

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- International Journal of Public Health.* July to August, 1921. Geneva: League of Red Cross Societies.
- Bulletin et Memoires de la Société de Antropologie de Paris.* 1920, Nos. 1, 2, and 3. Paris: 120, Boulevard St. Germain.
- L.C.C. Gazette, The.* 13th June to 30th August, 1921. London: P. S. King & Son.
- National Health.* July and August. London: 5, Tavistock Square.
- Mental Hygiene.* July, 1921. New York: National Committee for Mental Hygiene, 27, Columbia St., Albany.
- Birth Control Review.* June to August, 1921. New York: 104, Fifth Avenue, New York.
- Training School Bulletin, The.* May to June, 1921. New Jersey: The Training School, Vineland.
- Scientia.* July to September, 1921. London: Williams & Norgate; Paris: Felix Alcan; Bologna: Nicola Zanichelli.
- Chicago Medical Recorder.* May to July, 1921. Chicago Medical Recorder Pub: Co., 1415 Mullers Building.
- Malthusian, The.* 15th June to 15th August, 1921. London: The Malthusian League, 96, Victoria Street, S.W.1.
- La Cultura Popolare.* May to July, 1921. Milan: Direzione ed Amministrazione Via San Barnaba N.36.
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- Journal of Delinquency.* May 1921. California: Whittier State School.
- Revue de l'Institut de Sociologie.* July 1921. Bruxelles: L'Institut de Sociologie, Parc Leopold.
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- Social Hygiene Bulletin, The.* June to August, 1921. New York: American Social Hygiene Association.
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- Shield, The.* July to August, 1921. London: Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, 2 & 4, Gt. Smith St., S.W.1.
- Man.* July to September, 1921. London: 50, Gt. Russell Street, The Anthropological Institute.
- Journal of Comparative Legislation.* July 1921. London: Society of Comparative Legislation, 1, Elm Court, Temple.
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- Science Progress.* July 1921. London: John Murray, Albemarle St.
- Genetics.* January to May, 1921. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins Co.
- Rivista Italiana di Sociologia.* October to December, 1920. Roma: Piazza di Pietra, 34.
- Journal of the Royal Statistical Society.* May to July, 1921. Royal Statistical Society, Adelphi Terrace, W.C.2.
- Journal of Heredity, The.* Jan. to Feb., 1921. Washington D.C. American Genetic Association.

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- American Journal of Anthropology.* Jan. to March, 1921. Washington D.C., Smithsonian Institute.
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